

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Described is an apparatus for sterilizing and sanitizing water circuits, especially the water circuits of dental units, comprising: a user fluid (F) supply line (1) connected, at one end, to a mains water supply (2) and, at the other end, to the dental unit through a first branch (3) for supplying a series of devices comprising a plurality of handpieces (4); a first unit (9),  
5 equipped with a third independent branch (10) connected to the first branch (3) and alternatively containing one of the following: a first disinfectant/sterilizing fluid (F1) to be supplied to the first branch (3) to permit performance of programmable discontinuous sterilizing or sanitizing  
10 cycles in the first branch (3), or a second sterile, disinfectant or medicinal fluid (F2) to be supplied continuously to the first supply branch (3) independently of, and as an alternative for, the user fluid (F) from the supply line (1); control means (30) acting on the first unit (9) also being provided for selecting the first or second fluid (F1, F2) supply according to  
15 the operating configuration of the dental equipment, that is to say, a continuous steady-state supply or sterilization / disinfection cycles of the first branch (3). [Figure 1]